

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 06504 101822Z

42

ACTION STR-01

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EB-03 AGR-03 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 NSC-07 NSCE-00 COME-00 TRSE-00 DRC-01

L-02 SSO-00 INRE-00 PRS-01 /044 W

----- 110204

O R 101735Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4741

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

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LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, GATT, EEC, IT

SUBJECT: GATT ART XXIV:6: STATUS REPORT ON TOBACCO

DEPT PASS STR FOR AMB MALMGREN;

DEPT PASS AGRICULTURE

REF: ROME 6206

1. AGATT WAS ABLE TO REACH SEN DAL FALCO IN VERONA MAY 9 AND INFORMED HIM OF LATEST DEVELOPMENTS ON TOBACCO. DAL FALCO TOLD AGATT THAT HIS INITIAL REACTION IS THAT ITALIAN TOBACCO INTERESTS WOULD HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH SEPARATION OF VIRGINIA BRIGHT FLUE CURED FROM WRAPPER TOBACCO WITH A 14-45 CXT.

2. DAL FALCO VOLUNTEERED TO TELEPHONE AMBASSADOR BOMBASSEI, ITALIAN PERM REP IN BRUSSELS, AND DIRECTOR GENERAL DI CHIO OF MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE TO THIS EFFECT. DAL FALCO BELIEVED THIS APPROACH DISTINCTLY PROMISING.

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PAGE 02 ROME 06504 101822Z

3. AGATT WAS AGAIN IN TOUCH WITH DAL FALCO FROM VERONA MAY

10. DAL FALCO CONFIRMED THAT HE HAD BEEN ABLE TO TALK TO BOMBASSEI AS NOTED ABOVE. HE INFORMED AGATT THAT FINAL DISCUSSION AND DECISION OF GOI POSITION ON TOBACCO NOW SCHEDULED FOR MAY 15 IN ROME. RESPONSIBILITY HAS NOW BEEN TRANSFERRED FROM AGRIC. MINISTRY TO MINISTRY FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND FOR THIS REASON HE HAD NOT CALLED DI CHIO. DAL FALCO GAVE US NAME OF MFA OFFICIAL WHO HE BELIEVES TO BE IN CHARGE OF MATTER AND WE ARE SEEKING TO FOLLOW UP WITH HIM MAY 11 OR 13 IN LOW KEY.

4. DCM DISCUSSED POSSIBILITY OF MOVING TOWARD SATISFACTORY SOLUTION ON TOBACCO WITH PETRIGNANI, DIPLOMATIC ADVISOR TO PRIME MINISTER RUMOR, ON MAY 9. DCM DREW PETRIGNANI'S ATTENTION TO US STATEMENT ON ITALIAN IMPORT DEPOSIT REQUIREMENT AS EXAMPLE OF COOPERATIVE US ATTITUDE RELATED TO EXPECTATION OF SUCCESSFUL 24:6 NEGOTIATION. PETRIGNANI, WHO WAS AWARE OF HELPFUL US STATEMENT, SAID HE WOULD PASS THIS ON TO PRIME MINISTER. VOLPE

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